

Read Kansas!

P-10

By the Kansas State Historical Society

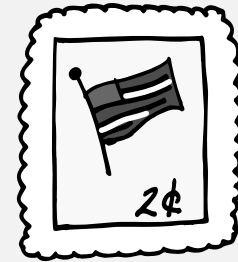
Traveling by Steamboat



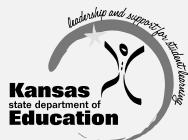
June 14, 1860

Dear Grandfather,
We had the most exciting adventure. We went by steamboat to Fort Riley, Kansas. We boarded the boat in Kansas City. The boat traveled up the Kansas River for two straight days. We went 243 miles. Our top speed was about six or seven miles per hour. Everyone on shore could see us coming. Black smoke poured out of our smokestacks. There were about 100 people on board. We took our meals on shore when the boat stopped to refuel. I wish we could have traveled farther but the Kansas River is not very deep. Steamboats can only go as far as Fort Riley. We will ride in a stagecoach to get to California. I hope you will come visit us next year.

Love,
Franklin



Mr. Michael Wilson
St. Louis, Missouri



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